



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001



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OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

April 28, 1999

Mr. Dominic Manzoli
North Beverly Environmental Action Committee
775A Cabot Street
Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Mr. Manzoli:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, 1999, regarding the Wenham Lake Reservoir and the Beverly Airport Industrial Connector Road. EPA-New England is aware of the potential threat to water quality posed by historical disposal of fly ash in the area, and as you know, we have investigated several of the waste disposal sites through the federal Superfund program. The results of these investigations were summarized in my letter to you of May 7, 1998. Our findings were also shared with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP). Since last May, the three Beverly sites have come back into compliance with the state program. They were tier classified in August 1998 as Tier 2 sites and are now being addressed by Licensed Site Professionals hired by the responsible parties.

We are encouraged by these recent events, and will continue to monitor progress made through the state program to ensure thorough site evaluations and response actions are achieved within a reasonable time frame. To emphasize our continuing interest in this matter, the three Beverly sites and the fly ash issue have been added to the EPA Superfund program's newly created "Watch List" of sites warranting enhanced federal-state oversight. The purpose of the Watch List is to facilitate rapid information exchange between the states and EPA regarding the current status of high profile sites, to ensure both Agencies are kept abreast of key site issues, and to put responsible parties and the public on notice that EPA and the state consider these sites to be of special concern.

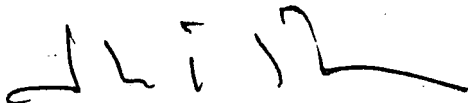
We have reviewed the information included with your letter and have discussed this matter with the state. For the time being, the Beverly sites and the fly ash issue will continue to be addressed through the MA DEP's Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup program, with periodic progress reports to EPA. Should forward progress in the state program again falter, EPA will consider whether further actions in the Superfund program are appropriate.

EPA Headquarters' Office of Water and EPA-New England's Office of Environmental Protection staff are also reviewing the information you have provided in your letter to me, and in your letter to Administrator Carol Browner dated March 26, 1999, regarding wetlands permitting

issues. A separate response from J. Charles Fox, Assistant Administrator for Water at EPA Headquarters, will address your questions about the Clean Water Act and the Beverly Airport Industrial Connector Road permit.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter and your dedication to the protection of the Wenham Lake Reservoir. If you have further questions regarding hazardous waste issues in Beverly, please contact me or Nancy Smith of my staff at (617) 918-1436.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J P DeVillars', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John P. DeVillars
Regional Administrator